

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

28

March 30, 2004

FROM: RUDY LOPEZ, Director
Department of Behavioral Health

**SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
FOR STATE PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT HOSPITAL BEDS**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve Agreement (State agreement No. 03-73240-000) with the State Department of Mental Health for hospital beds and inpatient health care and support services provided to adults and children with psychiatric disabilities in the amount of \$3,493,423 for the period July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Approval of this item will allow the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to accommodate severely and persistently mentally ill patients at an appropriate level of care in a Psychiatric Inpatient State Hospital setting.

On October 21, 2003, the Board approved the fiscal year 2003/04 Mandated County Performance Contract with DMH (Item 34), which formalized the County's requirement to provide local mental health services. In mid February 2004, DBH received the State Hospital Bed Purchase and Usage contract for Board approval.

Sections 4330 through 4335 of the California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) require the State DMH and San Bernardino County DBH to contract for the utilization and reimbursement of State Hospital beds. Pursuant to Section 4331 of WIC, contracts specify the number of beds to be provided, the rate or rates of reimbursement, the services requested by the County, the procedures for admission and discharge, and any other pertinent terms as agreed to by the State and County.

The highest level of care is the State Hospital psychiatric unit; the next highest level of treatment is provided through the Institute of Mental Disease (IMD). Patients in need of a lower level of care are placed in augmented board and care facilities. Lower levels of care are less costly than higher levels of care. Programs at each facility are dependent upon the patient's age group, level of care, specific patient needs, and condition under which the patient is admitted. State Hospitals provide services to patients who are committed pursuant to Sections of the Penal Code, the WIC, or who are found to be Incompetent to Stand Trial.

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AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR STATE PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT HOSPITAL BEDS

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County residents are primarily admitted to Metropolitan State Hospital (Metro) in Norwalk and Patton State Hospital (Patton) in San Bernardino. Metro is a State Hospital that specializes in acute care (severe symptoms that last for a short period of time), subacute care (recent onset, somewhat rapid symptoms lasting less than 3 months), psychiatric rehabilitation, and a skilled nursing care facility (SNF). Patton provides state-of-the-art mental health care and treatment to forensic and civilly committed patients in need of a structured, secure environment.

DBH's current usage of Psychiatric Inpatient State Hospital beds is as follows:

Type of Service	FY 02/03 Contracted Number	FY 03/04 Contracted Number	Current Usage	Rate per Bed Day
Youth Services	14 beds	10 beds	9 beds	\$424
SNF	5 beds	4 beds	4 beds	\$337
Acute/Sub-Acute	13 beds	16 beds	16 beds	\$360

DBH has reduced bed usage by transitioning patients to lower levels of care such as Augmented Board and Care (ABC) facilities, Institutes of Mental Disease (IMD) facilities, or regular board and care facilities. DBH Case Managers review State Hospital patient charts on a regular basis. The FY 2003/04 state contract reduces the number of beds and redistributes the type of service to reflect current usage.

According to Section 4333 (a) of the WIC, the County may not reduce state net hospital beds by more than ten percent (or 3 for San Bernardino County) in any one year. If needed additional beds, if available, can be utilized by DBH at the current State cost plus an additional \$20 per bed day.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This contract was reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel (Charles Larkin, Deputy County Counsel 387-5433) on March 10, 2004 and the Mental Health Commission on March 4, 2004. This agenda item has also been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Carol Hughes, Administrative Analyst 388-0211) on March 18, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approval of this item will result in no local County cost. The projected Fiscal Year 2003/2004 utilization of these services total \$3,493,423. The amount is funded by realignment revenue and is included in DBH's approved budget for Fiscal Year 2003/2004.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends approval as it will impose no additional cost to the County and will continue mandated services available to County residents.

**AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FOR STATE
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SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: Rudy Lopez, Director
(909) 387-7024

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